

What's New in the MPDC

MARCH 19, 2001

THIRTY-TWO NEW OFFICERS HIT DC's STREETS

Thirty-two new Metropolitan Police officers hit the street this weekend, following recruit graduation ceremonies Friday at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing in Southwest DC. The officers recently completed their 24-week training program, which included expanded training on crime victim services. All of the new officers have been assigned to uniformed patrol duties in the city's PSAs (Police Service Areas). In his remarks to the new officers, Chief Ramsey stressed the importance of officers not only enforcing the law and arresting offenders, but also treating the victims of crime with understanding and compassion. You can read the Chief's complete message to the new officers at:

www.mpd.org (Click on News)

While the MPDC had been precluded from hiring any new officers since last fall, the Department has received the go-ahead to put new classes of both recruit and lateral-hire officers in the Training Academy. For information on career opportunities in the MPDC, click on:

www.mpd.org
(Click on recruiting)

RUSH-HOUR PARKING FINES DOUBLE TO \$100; ENFORCEMENT BEGINS MARCH 26

We've all encountered it: a single, illegally parked car on a major artery that creates serious backups during rush hour. To crack down on violators and ease traffic congestion, Mayor Williams recently signed into law a new measure that doubles the fines for rush-hour parking violations from \$50 to \$100. The \$100 fine applies to vehicles parked or standing during the designated rush-hour periods (7-9:30 a.m. and/or 4-6:30 p.m.) along major arterial streets – including all of the downtown area – and many designated secondary streets as well. While the new law technically went into effect on March 9, enforcement of the increased fines is being delayed until March 26 to allow a grace period for educating motorists.

The new fines are contained in Title 18 of the DCMR, Section 2601, Parking and Other Non-Moving Infractions, Subsection 2601.1.

REMINDER: MAYOR'S MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARDS LUNCHEON

Each year, the DC Chamber of Commerce and the Mayor of the District of Columbia come together to honor those police officers, firefighters and emergency medical personnel who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in serving the residents of DC. This year's awards luncheon will be held on Wednesday, March 21, from 12 noon to 2 pm, at the Capital Hilton, 16th & K Streets, NW. For more information, or to request tickets, call the DCCC's Director of Special Events at 202-638-7347. Eleven MPDC officers from various units will be honored during this year's luncheon. Read about their meritorious efforts by going to:

www.mpd.org (Click on Heroes of the MPDC)

INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES HELP KEEP PROSTITUTION IN CHECK ON PSA 309

Prostitution has traditionally been a sore subject on PSA 309 in the Logan Circle community. While the problem has been reduced dramatically in the last few years, residents want to keep it that way. So last December, when PSA Lt. Diane Groomes and resident Jim Kane noticed a suspicious-looking business on the corner of 14th Street and Rhode Island Avenue, NW – one that the manager called an “exercise studio,” but which had tell-tale signs of a massage parlor – Groomes quickly pulled police, community and city agencies together to design and implement an innovative problem-solving strategy. The partners gathered information, conducted inspections, enforced applicable business regulations and even sent letters to the owners of vehicles parked in the building’s driveway that they were under surveillance for suspected prostitution activity. A cease-and-desist order was served, based on the absence of a required spa license, and the MPDC began issuing fines. In less than two months, the Osaka “exercise studio” was closed for business. Residents are now looking at other similarly suspicious establishments in the neighborhoods for possible problem-solving actions. Read the entire PSA 309 success story at:

Do you have a community policing success story to share with the rest of the city? E-mail your ideas to Margaret Poethig, Executive Director, Policing for Prevention, at mpoethig@mpdc.org, or call 202-727-7432.

www.mpdc.org (Click on Districts & PSAs, then select the 3rd District)

MPDC SEEKS CIVILIAN FLEET SERVICES MANAGER

The MPDC is accepting applications for a Fleet Services Manager. This civilian employee will coordinate all phases of fleet services on behalf of the Department, with a strong emphasis on administering the MPDC’s fleet services contract and monitoring the activities of the contract provider. Among other qualifications, applicants must have at least one year of specialized experience in this area. This position is part of the Management Supervisory Service; the salary range is \$68,570 - \$89,142 per year. For complete information about the Fleet Services Manager position, including how to apply, go to:

www.mpdc.org (Click on Career Opportunities)

MAKE THE RIGHT CALL: 3-1-1 FOR POLICE NON-EMERGENCIES

Learn more about the MPDC’s toll-free telephone number for reporting police non-emergencies at:
<http://www.mpdc.org> (click on Telephone Directory)

And you or your group can get 3-1-1 materials — brochures, flyers, refrigerator magnets and stickers — by calling 202-727-9346 or e-mailing: kmorison_mpdc@excite.com.

Information, ideas or comments about this service?

E-mail Kevin Morison, MPDC’s Director of Corporate Communications, at kmorison_mpdc@excite.com.

Would you like to have this information emailed to you? Just go to our web site and register with crimereports.com.

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT WEB PAGE
WWW.MPDC.ORG